

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus ~~A guide wire location means (10)~~ for locating, in use, a guide wire at an axis of a neck of a patient's femur, the apparatus comprising:

a base part for securement to a head of the femur;

a second part securable to the base part and spherically adjustable relative thereto;

a third part for directly or indirectly receiving a wire guide, and arranged for plan or adjustment, the third ~~said wire guide receiving~~ part being securable to the second ~~said spherically adjustable~~ part, and

a sighting mechanism comprising ~~means including~~ a probe having a portion ~~part~~ engagable with the head and/or neck of the femur.

2. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of ~~A guide wire location means (10) as claimed in claim 1, wherein in which~~ the sighting mechanism comprises ~~means~~ includes a sighting element.

3. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of ~~A guide wire location means (10) as claimed in claim 2, wherein in which~~ the sighting element is a disc.

4. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of ~~A guide wire location means (10) as claimed in claim 3, wherein in which~~ the disc is the same size as the interior of a cylindrical saw cutter used to ~~which will~~ machine the head.

5. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of ~~A guide wire location means (10) as claimed in claim 1, wherein in which~~ the base part comprises a plurality of ~~includes~~ identical circular plates ~~(11, 12, 13)~~.

6. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of A guide wire location means
~~(10) as claimed in claim 5, wherein in which the~~ each of the plurality of identical circular
plates has have a central aperture.

7. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of A guide wire location means
~~(10) as claimed in claim 6, wherein in which the~~ each of the plurality of identical circular
plates has an annular portion around its central aperture, the annular portion including a
plurality of ~~have there around the central aperture in their annular surfaces~~ equi-angularly
spaced apertures (14, 15, 16).

8. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of A guide wire location means
~~(10) as claimed in claim 7, wherein in which the~~ plurality of equi-angularly spaced apertures
in each circular plate comprises three equi-angularly spaced apertures (14, 15, 16) are three in
number.

9. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of A guide wire location means
~~(10) as claimed in claim 7, wherein~~ or 8 in which the equi-angularly spaced apertures (14, 15,
16) are threaded.

10. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of A guide wire location means
~~(10) as claimed in anyone of claims 1 to 9 in which~~ claim 1, wherein the base part comprises
a plurality of headed studs, each headed stud having a pointed end remote from its head
~~includes headed studs (17, 18, 19) which have pointed ends remote from their heads.~~

11. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of A guide wire location means
~~(10) as claimed in anyone of claims 5 to 9 in which~~ includes an claim 5, further comprising
an enclosure (20) having a cylindrical lower portion (21) and a part-spherical upper portion
~~(22), the upper portion having a central opening (23).~~

12. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of A guide wire location means
~~(10) as claimed in claim 11, wherein in which~~ the cylindrical lower portion (21) of the
enclosure (20) is outwardly stepped to provide an annular groove so that assembly of the

plurality of circular plates ~~(11, 12, 13)~~ can be located inside an ~~this~~ open end of the cylindrical lower portion (21).

13. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of A guide wire location means ~~(10) as claimed in claim 12, further comprising in which~~ an adjustment member (26) ~~is so shaped configured to that it can~~ be received within the enclosure (20).

14. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of A guide wire location means ~~(10) as claimed in claim 13, wherein in which~~ the adjustment member has a generally cylindrical lower part (27) with a part-spherical upper surface that ~~(28) which~~ substantially matches an interior surface of the ~~the interior part-spherical upper portion surface of the portion (22) of the enclosure (20).~~

15. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of A guide wire location means ~~(10) as claimed in claim 14, wherein in which~~ the adjustment member (26) has, from the center ~~centre~~ of its part-spherical upper surface (28), a hollow cylindrical boss that ~~(29) which~~ projects through the central opening (23) ~~at the top of the enclosure (20).~~

16. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of A guide wire location means ~~(10) as claimed in any one of claims 14 or 15 in which claim 14, wherein~~ the generally cylindrical lower part (27) of the adjustment member (26) has equi-angularly spaced slots; ~~these slots~~ extending partly through the part-spherical upper surface (28) of the adjustment member.

17. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of A guide wire location means ~~(10) as claimed in claim 16, wherein in which~~ there are three equi-angularly spaced slots.

18. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of A guide wire location means ~~(10) as claimed in any one of claims 11 to 17 in which claim 11, further comprising~~ a circular lock ring (32) ~~is removably attachable to~~ an exterior surface of the part-spherical upper portion ~~the upper part of the part-spherical exterior surface of the enclosure (20).~~

19. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of A guide wire location means
~~(10) as claimed in any one of claims 15, 16, or 17 in which claim 15, further comprising a~~
cannula guide ~~(37) is so shaped and configured to be received by the cylindrical boss (29).~~

20. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of A guide wire location means
~~(10) as claimed in any one of claims 15, 16, or 17 in which claim 18, further comprising a~~
cannula guide ~~is so shaped and configured to be received by the cylindrical boss when the~~
cylindrical boss (20) extends through a hole (36) of the lock ring (32).

21. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of A guide wire location means
~~(10) as claim in claim 19, wherein or 20 in which the cannula guide comprises (37) is in the~~
form of an elongated cylindrical body having an external circular flange (39) perpendicular to
the body thereto adjacent a reduced diameter end of the body.

22. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of A guide wire location means
~~(10) as claimed in any one of claims 19, 20, or 21 in which claim 19, wherein a sighting disc~~
extends closely through a central circular aperture of a body the body (38) of the cannula
guide (37).

23. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of A guide wire location means
~~(10) as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 4 in which claim 1, wherein the base part is a single~~
piece for securement to a head of the femur is a one piece base part (57).

24. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of A guide wire location means
~~(10) as claimed in claim 23, wherein in which the one piece base part comprises (57) is in the~~
form of an annulus having an exterior cylindrical surface (58) and a part-spherical upper
surface (59).

25. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of A guide wire location means
~~(10) as claimed in either claim 23, wherein or 24 in which spikes (60) extend from the~~
underside of the exterior cylindrical surface of the base part (58).

26. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of A guide wire location means
~~(10) as claimed in any one of claims 1, 2, 3, or 23 to 25 in which claim 1, wherein the~~
sighting mechanism comprises a sighting disc (77) that extends to a the top of an adjustment
member.

27. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of A guide wire location means
~~(10) as claimed in claim 26, wherein in which the sighting disc (77) is received on an the end~~
of a circular rod of a the probe (74), the probe (74) having at its lower end a contact member
(76) to engage the femur.

28. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of A guide wire location means
~~(10) as claimed in claim 13 to 17 or 26 in which claim 13, wherein the adjustment member is~~
configured to receive magnetic material (62) may be manufactured in such a manner as to
allow insertion of a magnetic material.

29. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of A guide wire location means
~~(10) as claimed in any preceding claim in which claim 1, wherein the base part is configured~~
to receive magnetic material may be manufactured in such a manner as to allow insertion of a
magnetic material.

30. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of A guide wire location means
~~(10) as claimed in any preceding claim in which claim 1, wherein the base part comprises~~
magnetic material.

31. (Currently Amended) A method of locating a guide wire at an axis of a
neck of a patient's femur ~~using guide wire means (10) as claimed in any preceding claim, the~~
method comprising the steps of:

securing a said base part to the head of the femur at approximately said axis;

appropriately adjusting the attitude of a second part, the second part being
securable to and spherically adjustable relative to the base part, said spherically adjustable
part prior to fitting thereto a third part said wire guide receiving part;

fitting the third part ~~said wire guide receiving part~~ to the second part, wherein the third part is for directly or indirectly receiving a wire guide and arranged for plan or adjustment ~~said spherically adjustable part~~;

setting ~~its~~ a planar position of the third part and subsequently adjusting same if necessary in response to engagement of a portion of a probe ~~said part of the probe means~~ with the head or neck of the femur; and

inserting the ~~said~~ guide wire directly or indirectly into the third ~~wire guide receiving~~ part upon any adjustment of ~~it's~~ the third part's planar position having been completed.